



NEWS

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Over \$9.5 Million Awarded to Reduce Air Pollution

Air District Program Funds 33 Local and Regional Projects

Public agencies throughout the Bay Area have been awarded over \$9.5 million in grants from the Bay Area Air Quality Management District's (Air District) Transportation Fund for Clean Air (TFCA) for projects that reduce emissions from motor vehicles—the single largest source of air pollution in the Bay Area. Over the life of the 33 projects funded this year, an estimated 414 tons of smog-causing gases and small particles will be removed from the air we breathe.

Since the Air District inaugurated this special funding program in 1992, a total of \$226 million in grants has been funded for 1,407 projects around the Bay Area. Over the intervening years, TFCA projects have reduced smog-forming and particulate emissions by an average of 1245 tons per year.

The largest emission reductions from this year's funding cycle will come from the replacement of old diesel-powered heavy-duty vehicles and transit buses with new cleaner propane or natural gas-fueled engines. These projects amount to over 42% percent of this year's total funding.

Other projects that received funding include shuttle and feeder bus service to train stations; ridesharing programs to encourage carpooling and transit use; bicycle facility improvements such as bike lanes, bicycle racks and lockers; arterial management improvement projects to speed the flow of transit buses and traffic along major arterials; and transit information projects to enhance the availability and accessibility of transit information.

The TFCA awards the \$4 surcharge on Department of Motor Vehicle registration fees collected in the Bay Area to public agency projects that reduce emissions from motor vehicles. By law, the Air District allocates 60% of TFCA funds, known as TFCA Regional Funds, through a competitive process and 40% is dispensed to congestion management agencies in the Bay Area's nine counties.

"These awards are putting vehicle registrations fees to work to benefit air quality and consequently the health of Bay Area residents," stated Executive Officer William C. Norton.

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Some of the criteria used to determine awards include: cost effectiveness at reducing emissions, feasibility, matching funds, and promotion of alternative transportation modes.

A portion of the TFCA Regional Funds is earmarked for eligible projects that are implemented directly by the Air District. These projects include:

- The Smoking Vehicle Program - warns motorists about the health hazards of vehicle exhaust and encourages reporting smoking vehicles by phone to 1-800-EXHAUST or on-line at www.800exhaust.org.
- The Vehicle Buy Back Program - offers \$500 to scrap high emission pre-1981 vehicles.
- The Vehicle Incentive Program - helps stimulate public agencies to change over to cleaner-fueled fleet vehicles.
- The Spare the Air Program - advises the public when air quality is poor and asks for cooperation in limiting polluting behaviors such as driving and other activities.
- The Lower Emission School Bus Program - helps school districts buy cleaner school buses.

The table below summarizes the grants by project type. A project listing by county is located on pages 3 and 4.

Project Type	Number of Projects	TFCA \$	Percent of Total TFCA Regional Fund \$
Heavy Duty Vehicles: NG / Propane	8	\$2,846,153	29.9%
Natural Gas Transit Bus Purchases	2	\$1,210,000	12.7%
Rail-Bus Integration	1	\$200,000	2.1%
Shuttle Programs	2	\$1,812,163	19%
Smart Growth Projects	5	\$954,717	10%
Bicycle Projects	11	\$999,370	10.5%
Arterial Management Projects	2	\$428,500	4.5%
Ridesharing Projects	2	\$1,080,000	11.3%
Totals	33	\$9,530,903	100%

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TFCA Projects by County

County	Grantee	Project Title	Awarded
Alameda	City of Alameda	12 Natural Gas Refuse Trucks	\$603,669
	City of Oakland	10 LNG & 6 Dual Fuel Refuse Trucks	\$666,000
	City of Oakland	Streetscape Improvements - 8 th St	\$165,000
	City of Oakland	Bicycle Lanes: MacArthur Blvd.	\$150,000
	City of Union City	One Natural Gas Street Sweeper	\$30,500
	County of Alameda	Bicycle Route - Dublin Canyon Rd	\$97,600
	University of California, Berkeley	5 Cages to park 245 Bikes	\$47,376
Contra Costa	City of Concord	Neighborhood Traffic Calming	\$150,000
	City of El Cerrito	Fairmount Ave Traffic Calming	\$351,654
	City of El Cerrito	Bicycle Path - Ohlone Greenway	\$140,964
	City of Richmond	Bicycle Path - Richmond Parkway Bay Trail	\$100,000
Region-Wide	Metropolitan Transportation Commission	Regional Rideshare Program	\$1,000,000
Santa Clara	City of Los Altos	Traffic Calming: El Monte Avenue	\$40,000
	City of San Jose	Bascom Ave Signal Timing Project	\$278,500
	City of San Jose	Install Bicycle Racks at Bus Stops	\$23,066
	City of Sunnyvale	5 Natural Gas Refuse Trucks	\$250,000
	San Jose State University	Trip Reduction Program	\$80,000
	Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority	Altamont Commuter Express Shuttle Program	\$812,163
	Town of Los Gatos	Installation of Bicycle Racks	\$32,200
San Francisco	County of San Francisco	Six LNG Refuse Trucks	\$440,984
	County of San Francisco (DPT)	Bicycle Lanes- Cabrillo Avenue	\$112,000
	San Francisco International Airport	31 Natural Gas Shuttle Vehicles	\$440,000

TFCA Projects by County (continued)

	San Francisco International Airport	14 Propane Hotel Shuttle Vehicles	\$325,000
	San Francisco MUNI	15 CNG or Hybrid Electric Vehicles	\$910,000
	San Francisco MUNI	Transit Bus Traffic Signal	\$150,000
	San Francisco MUNI	Bicycle Racks: Install Bike Racks on 80 Buses	\$63,364
San Mateo	City of East Palo Alto	Bay Road Traffic Calming & Streetscape Improvements	\$248,063
	Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board	Caltrain Shuttle Program	\$1,000,000
	SAMTRANS / BART	Marketing of West Bay BART Extensions	\$200,000
Solano	City of Fairfield	Bicycle Path - Linear Park	\$100,000
Sonoma	City of Santa Rosa	Bicycle Path - Traffic Signal on Joe Rodota Trail	\$132,800
	City of Santa Rosa	2 Propane Street Sweepers	\$90,000
	Sonoma County Transit	Two Natural Gas Buses	\$300,000

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